

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously presented) A method for decreasing ghrelin levels in a person or other mammal in need thereof comprising: administering to a person or other mammal a composition comprised of hydroxycitric acid in an amount sufficient to decrease ghrelin levels in the person or other mammal.

2.-8. (Canceled).

9. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from a plant of the genus *Garcinia*.

10. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid is derived from the plant *Garcinia cambogia*.

11. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 900 milligrams to approximately 4,500 milligrams daily.

12.-17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claims 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 2,000 milligrams to approximately 3,500 milligrams daily.

19.-24 (Canceled).

25. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid administered is approximately 2,700 milligrams to approximately 2,800 milligrams daily.

26.-31. (Canceled).

32. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid ~~administered~~ is administered in three substantially equally divided doses three times a day, approximately 30 to 60 minutes before the person or other mammal consumes a meal.

33.-35. (Canceled)

36. (Original) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of the following: gymnemic acid, green tea extract, and chromium.

37. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium administered is niacin-bound chromium.

38. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is derived from a plant of the genus *Gymnema*.

39. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is derived from *Gymnema sylvestre*.

40. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tree extract administered comprises one or more of the following: epigallocatechin gallate, caffeine and theanine.

41. (Original) A method as defined in claim 36, wherein, if the composition comprises gymnemic acid, the gymnemic acid administered is approximately 10 milligrams to approximately 1,000 milligrams daily, if the composition comprises green tea extract, the green tea extract administered is approximately 20 milligrams to 2000 milligrams daily and, if the composition comprises chromium, the chromium administered is approximately 10 micrograms to approximately 1,000 micrograms daily.

42. (Currently amended) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the composition further comprises one or more of the following: approximately 400 micrograms of chromium, approximately 100 milligrams of gymnemic acid and approximately 400 milligrams of epigallocatechin gallate.

43.-104. (Canceled).

105. (Previously presented) A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydroxycitric acid comprises a dual salt with calcium and potassium.

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106. (Canceled)